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Rural District of Malmesbury

REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

Year ended 31st December, 1946

Public Health Officers of the Authority :

(a) Medical Officer of Health—

C. L. BROOMHEAD, M.D., D.P.H.

(b) Sanitary Inspector—

R. S. PIERCE, C.S.I.B.

Meat and other Food Inspectors Certificate, R.S.I.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
MALMESBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1946. This report is based on Ministry of Health Circular 13/47 dated the 13th March, 1947.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

C. L. BROOMHEAD, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres)	.....	58,129
Population (1946)	.....	8786
No. of Inhabited Houses (end of 1946 according to Rate Book)	.....	2511
Rateable Value	.....	£48,634
Sum represented by penny rate	.....	£204

Vital Statistics for 1946.

	Total	M	F	Rate	Cf. E.&W.
Live Births	178	94	84		
Legitimate	165	86	79		
Illegitimate	13	8	5		
Birth Rate (per 1000 population)				20.2	19.1
Still Births	8	6	2		
Rate (per 1000 total population)				.91	.53
Deaths	107	57	50		
Death Rate (per 1000 population)				12.2	11.5
Deaths from Puerperal Causes					
Puerperal Sepsis	0	0	0		
Other Puerperal Causes	0	0	0		
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year					
All Infants per 1000 live births	6	4	2	33.7	43.0
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births	6	4	2	36.3	
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	0	0	0		
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	17	8	9		
,, Measles (all ages)	0	0	0		
,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	0	0	0		

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	0	0	0
„ Influenza	3	1	2
„ Respiratory Diseases (21, 22, 23)	10	5	5
„ Diseases of Heart & Blood Vessels (18, 19, 20)	49	26	23

Deaths from all causes.

Cause	Male	Female	Total
Typhoid and parat. fevers	0	0	0
Cerebro-spinal fever	0	0	0
Scarlet fever	0	0	0
Whooping cough	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Tuberculosis of resp. sys.	1	1	2
Other forms of tuberculosis	0	0	0
Syphilitic diseases	0	0	0
Influenza	1	2	3
Measles	0	0	0
Ac. polio-myel. and polio-enceph.	0	0	0
Ac. inf. enceph.	0	0	0
Cancer of buc. cav. & oesoph. (M) uterus (F)	1	0	1
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	1	2	3
Cancer of breast	0	3	3
Cancer of all other sites	6	4	10
Diabetes	0	1	1
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	5	5	10
Heart dis.	17	14	31
Other dis. of circ. system	4	4	8
Bronchitis	3	2	5
Pneumonia	0	3	3
Other resp. dis.	2	0	2
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	0	0	0
Diarrhoea under 2 years	0	0	0
Appendicitis	0	0	0
Other digve. dis.	2	0	2
Nephritis	2	0	2
Puer. and post-abortion : sepsis	—	0	0
Other maternal causes	—	0	0
Prem. birth	3	1	4
Con. mal. birth inj. infant. dis.	1	1	2
Suicide	1	0	1
Road traffic acc.	1	0	1
Other violent causes	4	4	8
All other causes	2	3	5
Total	57	50	107

Prevalence of Infectious Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) occurring in the District during the year 1946.

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital
Scarlet Fever	..... 6	6
Diphtheria	..... 0	0
Whooping Cough	..... 13	0
Measles	..... 11	0
Poliomyelitis	..... 0	0
Typhoid Fever	..... 0	0
Pneumonia	..... 4	2
Dysentery	..... 0	0
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	..... 0	0
Erysipelas	..... 0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	..... 0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	..... 0	0

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory M	Non-Respiratory F	Non-Respiratory M	Non-Respiratory F	Respiratory M	Respiratory F	Non-Respiratory M	Non-Respiratory F
0								
1			1					
5			2					
15		2						
25	2							
35					1			
45								
55								
65								
and upwards								
Totals	2	2	3	0	1	0	0	0

Water Supplies.

A piped water Supply is available in the following parishes :

Brinkworth	}	In bulk from Cricklade & Wootton Bassett R.D.C.
Dauntsey		
Minety		
Sherston (Bulk)	}	From West Gloucestershire Water Company
Luckington		
Sopworth		
Foxley & Norton (Part)		

St. Paul Without
Malmesbury (part of
special burial district) } In bulk from Malmesbury Borough
Council

In all cases chlorination is carried out at source.

Chemical and bacteriological examination of samples taken from the Crudwell, Hullavington, Corston and Oaksey supplies show no evidences of pollution.

The water is not liable to plumbo-solvent action.

The number of dwelling houses and number of population supplied from public water mains is as follows.:

Parish	No. of Dwellings	Population supplied	Direct to Houses	By Stand-pipes
Sherston	269	1076	193	76
Brinkworth	146	584	146	—
Dauntsey	64	256	64	—
Minety	129	516	129	—
Hullavington	86	344	86	—
Oaksey	51	204	22	29
Crudwell	65	260	65	—
Malmesbury (St. Paul Without)	121	484	121	—
Cleverton (excluding Lea)	15	60	15	—
Foxley & Norton	4	16	4	—
Luckington	37	148	37	—
Sopworth	29	116	29	—
	1016	*4064	911	105

*Average number per house taken as 4.

Approximately 200 houses are supplied from privately owned supplies, mainly from stand-pipes.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

VILLAGES WITH SEWERS AND DISPOSAL PLANTS.

Sewers and small obsolete disposal plants are existing in the following parishes: Crudwell, St. Paul Without (Burton Hill) and Sherston.

VILLAGES WITH SEWERS BUT NO SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

Brinkworth, Hullavington, Lea and Cleverton, Luckington, Oaksey, St. Paul Without (Corston), Great Somerford, Little Somerford and Sopworth.

Works are considered necessary in the following parishes :

Parish	Probable No. of houses to be served	Parish	Probable No. of houses to be served
Brinkworth	132	Lea and Cleverton	92
Brokenborough	47	Little Somerford	70
Charlton	55	Luckington	115
Crudwell	142	Minety	130
Dauntsey	60	Oaksey	86
Easton Grey	22	St. Paul Without	237
Great Somerford	131	Sherston	333
Hullavington	120	Sopworth	32

Collection and Disposal of House Refuse.

All types of household refuse are collected and deposited at four tips : Old Brickworks, Brinkworth (owned by the Council), Oaksey, Knockdown and Hullavington (by arrangement with the owners).

Difficulties have been experienced due to the large proportion of bottles and tins collected and the small proportion of ashes and other suitable covering materials. No infestations by rats and flies have been experienced.

Many householders continue to collect refuse in old boxes, sacks, baths and buckets which are not covered and are not suitable as refuse receptacles. It is suggested that action be taken to enforce the provision of covered sanitary dustbins in all cases.

During the year the lorry covered 4689 miles on refuse collection in the Rural District.

Since 17th July, 1945, the lorry has been used to give a twice-weekly collection in the Borough of Malmesbury, by arrangement between the two Councils.

Collections generally have been satisfactory.

Food.

(a) MILK.

Number of producers in the area	.....	396
Number of retailers in the area	.....	32
Number of producers of T.T. milk	.....	27
Number of producers of accredited milk	.....	39
Number of inspections for the purpose of the Milk & Dairies Order	.....	65

There are no pasteurisation plants in the District. No statutory action has been taken with regard to milk during the year.

The introduction of the "Phosphatase" test and the bi-monthly sampling of milk from all producers, with follow-up advisory visits from the Wilts W.A.E.C. has shown an improvement in methods generally.

The financial bonus to producers of T.T. and Accredited milks is resulting in an increase in the number of such producers. The standard of milk production has shown a distinct improvement during the past years, though there is still insufficient control and attention to detail.

(b) BAKEHOUSES.

There are five bakehouses in the Rural District, one each at Brinkworth, Lea and Minety, and two at Sherston. No notices have been served, necessary alterations have been discussed and agreed on the spot. All bakehouses are clean and generally in good condition.

(c) MEAT.

There is no slaughtering in the District, all meat being delivered from Ministry of Food Central Slaughterhouses.

There are four butchers' shops in the District, which are generally in good condition.

No meat was condemned during the year under review.

(d) FRIED FISH SHOPS.

One fried fish shop is registered and is satisfactory.

(e) ICE-CREAM.

Number of inspections	.....	4
Number of premises registered for the sale of ice-cream	.....	2
Number of premises registered for manufacture of ice-cream	.....	1

(f) OTHER FOODSTUFFS.

24 packets of bun mixture were condemned during the year.

Rodent Control.

No infestation reports during the year.

Infestation.

Number reported during the year	Nil
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Disinfections were carried out in 7 homes after Infectious Diseases.

School Children.

In addition to the usual re-inspection, 253 children in the Routine Age-groups were examined during the year under review, of these 54.9% were found to be of normal nutrition and 5.14% were excellent. 39.53% were found to be slightly sub-normal and .39% badly under-nourished.

Closure of Schools during 1946.

The following Schools were closed during the year :

Hankerton	.....	Influenza
Oaksey	.....	Whooping Cough

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Up to the end of the year the following numbers of children have been successfully immunised :

Ages 1-4—308 (39.8%). Ages 5-14—937 (72.4%).

Total—1235 (60.1%).

No cases of diphtheria were notified during the year under review.

Milk in Schools Scheme.

Average attendance, October, 1946	.....	742	
No. taking milk on a day in October, 1946		664	(89.5%)
Pasteurised or heat treated milk supplied to		151	children
Tuberculin tested milk supplied to	.....	198	„
Accredited milk supplied to	.....	286	„
Non-designated milk supplied to	.....	29	„

By the end of 1946, every school had a supply of fresh milk daily, provided free of cost, but limited for the present to one-third pint per child.

School milk supplies are sampled by the County Sanitary Inspector for biological examination four times a year and endeavours are made by the Veterinary Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture to undertake clinical examinations of the accredited and non-designated herds four times annually. This is not always possible, however, owing to shortage of staff.

School Meals Service.

No. of children receiving mid-day meals at school :

Full or part payment—281. Free—46.

During 1946 a Central Kitchen was opened in Chippenham which supplies mid-day meals to the schools in Hullavington.